Alumni Columns

Magazine Fall 2010
Northwestern State University of Louisiana

Oil and Water

Alumni respond to Gulf catastrophe

Dr. Randall J. Webb, 1965, 1966
President, Northwestern State University

Dear Alumni:

As many of you are aware, Northwestern, along with other state universities in Louisiana, is going through difficult times. State budget cuts have reduced our budget by $9.7 million dollars over the last 18 months. Because of the cuts and additional projected cuts, we were forced to terminate eight bachelor's degree programs, one master's degree offering, 12 academic minors and five concentrations in baccalaureate degree programs. We regret the loss of degree programs and the departure of many valued friends and colleagues from Northwestern.

Despite those cuts, which are detailed further in this issue of the *Alumni Columns*, Northwestern is committed to moving forward and providing the best possible academic and learning environment for our students.

This fall, the University is creating an Academic Advising Center to aid students in making wise decisions about major fields of study and potential careers.

We are moving toward the implementation of a university-wide honors program for each curriculum, in each department, to attract for Fall 2011 and ensuing years increasing numbers of students with strong academic preparation.

The University will expand living/learning communities for students in the residence Halls. With University Columns and University Place Phases I and II, we have some of the most modern on-campus housing in the region.

Northwestern is also looking to create a Center for Teaching Excellence. This would build upon the good work already being done through the Office of Electronic and Continuing Education, which will continue moving Northwestern toward becoming a learning-centered university where faculty primarily facilitate student learning and mentor students.

The University also received good news regarding our long-awaited Student Services Center, which will be on the site of the former West Caspari Hall. The bid for the first phase of the project came in within the budgeted amount, allowing us to proceed with the renovation of East Caspari Hall. Bids for that phase should be awarded this fall. This facility will combine a number of offices, which provide student services in one building.

Thank you for all you do to support Northwestern. I hope to see you for Homecoming activities.

William Drake Owens, 2004, 2005
Director of Alumni and Development

My fellow alumni:

In a year fraught with challenges, I have found that adversity often brings out our strengths. As many of you know, budget cuts have affected everyone at Northwestern, requiring us to respond with determination, commitment and fortitude. Now is the time for us to be our most resourceful in finding opportunities amid the uncertainties.

Despite the hardships that Northwestern has faced in the last year, I am uplifted by the enthusiasm on the faces of incoming freshmen and new students on campus who are excited about being part of NSU. Meeting with these students and their families and getting them involved in university life restores my optimism and reminds me that character often comes from having overcome difficulties.

I am also reminded that some of our greatest assets cannot be bought with dollars. Pride in our alma mater. Words we use when we talk about Northwestern and what a special place it is. The camaraderie we feel when we meet former classmates at a reunion and laugh at shared memories.

Maintaining the vitality of our school will require vision, hard work and dedication. These are qualities inherent to the spirit of Northwestern as evidenced by our staff, our faculty, our students and our alumni.

Important things can be accomplished by those who persevere. We will overcome the shortfalls armed with hope, courage and resilience and we will continue to march forward. Please do all that you can to help. Your commitment and service to Northwestern are so greatly valued. Thank you for your time, your gifts and your continued support of this great university.

On the Cover: Darryll Willis in Venice, La., in June 2010. Insets show the construction of 2.5 miles of a HESCO barrier wall built in Cameron by the 928th Engineer Company (SAPPER) of the 769th Engineer Battalion; one of two, one ton masses of tarball material recovered June 11 near Perdido Pass, Fla., on the deck of the liftboat Sailfish; and a supply vessel delivering bladders for Navy skimmers at Perdido Key. Photos courtesy of Willis and BP, Ray Hernandez, Jeff Gerring and Sgt. Michael L. Owens, Louisiana National Guard.

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A Capital Campaign fund raising event took place at the University Club in Shreveport in July. Hosts for the event were John (1978) and Lynne Manno, Michael and Casey (2001) Thompson, Kevin and Georgia McCotter, Bobbie (1974) and Sherry Shields, Gene "Smokey" (1962, 1963, 1969) and Maxine (1962) Johnson, Mack (1961) and Jonell Knotts, Jerry and Dr. Norann Planchock, Ted (1960) and Alice (1961) Roberts, Charles (1970, 1971) and Linda (1975) Knicely, Mike (1975) and Devora Wilburn, Rudy (1978) & Velma Hines. Not pictured are Lane and Adelise Pittard.

NSU band readies for Centennial celebration

The Spirit of Northwestern Demon Marching Band will mark its 100th anniversary in 2011 with a roster of activities planned throughout the year, beginning with an appearance in the 25th annual London New Year's Day parade, an event viewed by millions across Europe, just as the Rose Bowl and Macy's Thanksgiving Day parades are in the U.S.

"Not many universities, especially in Louisiana, can boast of having a band program that is 100 years old," said Director of Bands Dr. Bill Brent, who is also director of the Dear School for Creative and Performing Arts. "What a tremendous opportunity for present and former band members, directors and the entire Northwestern community to celebrate such an event. I consider it an extreme honor to have been able to serve as the director of this fine organization for the past 27 years and, as I start year 28, I look forward to many more."

A special centennial concert is planned for April 17, 2011, according to Associate Director of Bands Dr. Jeff Mathews (1990).

"We have commissioned a new piece of music for the performance to celebrate 100 years of the Demon band," Mathews said. The concert event will feature current student musicians, alumni members and former band directors, including assistant directors.

"The 100th anniversary is actually April 12, 2011, based on an article that ran in the Potpourri announcing the band's first rehearsal," Mathews said. Prior to that time, there were music ensembles on campus, but the 1911 announcement is the first record of a designated student group with uniforms who called themselves a band, under the direction of Henry W. Stopher.

Ideas for the April 2011 event are still in development, but Mathews said it will include a Friday evening social, a Saturday evening banquet and the concert on Sunday afternoon. Alumni who wish to participate in the concert will be able to rehearse with the band on Saturday afternoon.

According to the 1912 Potpourri, "sixteen boys attended the first rehearsal." The band has averaged between 275 and 300 members since 1990.

"We found programs from concerts presented in 1911 and 1912 and are attempting to play some of the same music during the 100th anniversary concert that the band performed at their very first concert," Mathews said. "We may also offer a lecture on the history of the band."

Mathews encourages all former band members to attend the centennial event, including former Demonaires and members of auxiliary units, the Cane River Belles, Demon Dazzlers, flag line and majorettes.

Mathews hopes to develop an exhibit of memorabilia to be put on display in the Hanchey Gallery to commemorate the centennial and said planners are developing ideas for the band alumni group's annual fall reunion.

For more information, contact Mathews at (318) 357- or e-mail mathewsj@nsula.edu.

Alumni are also invited to join the Spirit of Northwestern Alumni Band group on Facebook, which features an abundance of photos, announcements and information.

"More than 500 former members have now joined the Facebook page that we are using to help notify everyone about the events that are being planned," Brent said. "We have had a tremendous amount of enthusiasm expressed by our alumni and former band members."

NSU 2010 HOMECOMING SCHEDULE

October 28-30

Alumni Art Show
Orville Hanchey Gallery

The Orville Hanchey Gallery will host the Fifth Annual Alumni Art Exhibition. The Guest Alumni Artist will be Larrie L. King, class of 2007, 2009 Assistant Professor of Design, Northwestern State University. This exhibition features mixed media works on board and canvas. Admission is free to the public. For more information, please contact Leslie Gruesbeck at (318) 352-5476 or gruesbeckl@nsula.edu.

Thursday, October 28

Student Activities Board Concert
7:00 p.m. - AA Fredericks Auditorium

For more information, please contact Kirk Lee at (318) 357-6511 or leeki@nsula.edu. Open to Alumni.

Friday, October 29

Homecoming Golf Tournament
1:00 p.m. - NSU Recreation Complex

Come participate in the annual golf scramble on the 18-hole golf course for $50 per player (includes golf cart and lunch by Coach Gene Knecht). Lunch will be served at 12:00 p.m. and tee time is at 1:00 p.m. Reservations can be made by contacting Lyndsey Miller at (318) 357-4415 or email at millerl@nsula.edu.

Black Alumni Alliance Mixer
5:00 -7:00 p.m. – Natchitoches Events Center Lobby

The NSU BAA will host a mixer for returning NSU Alumni. Get reacquainted with your old friends, share some laughs and enjoy the drinks onsite. For more information contact Nicole Gray at (972) 897-5357 or visit www.nsureunion.com.

Long Purple Line Reception
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. - Arnold Kilpatrick President's Residence

Current and former Long Purple Line recipients are invited to a reception hosted by Dr. & Mrs. Webb. Current Long Purple Line inductees will be recognized during the reception. For more information contact Leah Ann Lawson at (318) 357-4412 or email at lawsonl@nsula.edu. Cocktail Dress. By Invitation Only.

Student Activities Board Lip Sync
7:00 p.m. - AA Fredericks Auditorium

The Homecoming Lip Sync is an annual event where student organizations perform a lip sync act to the current year's theme. This year's theme is "Live from NSU, It's Saturday Night." Open to Alumni, tickets $5.00. For more information, please contact Kirk Lee at (318) 357-6511 or leeki@nsula.edu.

Phi Mu Paint the Night Pink
7:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
The Docks at the Mariner

Phi Mu alumni are invited to meet up with their sisters for a night out. Cash bar and meals on your own off the menu. For more information contact Stacey Fenwick Thompson at Stacey_thompson80@yahoo.com or Leah Sherman Middlebrook at leah.middlebrook@att.net.

Black Alumni Alliance Homecoming Step Show/After Party
7:00 p.m. – Natchitoches Events Center

The NSU BAA kicks off its 2nd Biennial Reunion with the 1st Annual Homecoming Step Show/After Party. Doors open at 6. For more information, contact William Cartwright at (318) 401-0473 or Nicole Gray at (972) 897-5357. Check out www.nsureunion.com for reunion details.

Saturday, October 30

Homecoming 5k Fun Run/Walk
8:00 a.m. - Wellness, Recreation & Activities Center (WRAC)

All alumni & supporters of NSU are invited to a special 5k Run/Walk through the NSU Campus. A $15 entry fee includes a t-shirt for pre-registered racers and prizes for overall and age-group winners and best costume. Register online at www.northwesternalumni.com/5k or contact Carmel Bourg at (318) 357-4360 or email at bourgca@nsula.edu.

N-Club Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
9:00 a.m. - Magale Recital Hall

For more information, please call Gil Gilson at (318) 677-3141 or email at gilson@nsula.edu.

College of Education and Human Development Reunion
9:30 a.m. – Teacher Education Center, Commons Area and Auditorium for Induction Ceremony

All graduates of the College of Education and Human Development are invited to a reunion that will honor the inductees of the College's Hall of Distinguished Educators. For more information, contact Janet Broadway at (318) 357-6278.

College of Business Reception
10:00 a.m. – Russell Hall Natchitoches Room

All College of Business alumni are invited to renew old friendships before the game. For more information, call the College of Business at (318) 357-5161.

ROTC Open House
10:00 a.m. - James A. Noe Military Science Building

All ROTC alumni are invited to stop by the hospitality room at the James A. Noe Military Science building between 10:00 a.m. and noon. A program honoring BG(Ret) James Bonsall will begin at 11:00 a.m. For more information, please contact Elisa Parker at (318) 357-5157 or email at parkere@nsula.edu.

Wesley Campus Ministry Open House
10:00 a.m. – Wesley Campus Ministry Building

NSU Alumni and friends are welcome to visit the Wesley Campus Ministry Building in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the facility. For more information, please contact Rev. John

"Live from NSU, It's Saturday Night!"

Higginbotham at (318) 352-2888 or nsula.wesley@yahoo.com.

Media Reunion
10:00 a.m. – Student Union Room 320

NSU Alumni that were members of the Current Sauce, KNWD, NSU TV and the Potpourri are invited to a Media Reunion. For more information please contact Lyndsey Miller at (318) 357-4415 or millerl@nsula.edu.

Cheerleading Reunion
10:00 a.m. - Student Union Room 321

All former Northwestern State University Cheerleaders are invited to attend a Cheerleading Reunion. For more information please contact Lyndsey Miller at (318) 357-4415 or millerl@nsula.edu.

Black Alumni Alliance Meeting
10:30 a.m. – Student Union Cane River Room

All NSU alumni interested in being members of the organization are invited to join us for our business meeting to discuss the tentative 2010-2011 schedule of activities and officer elections/committee updates. For more information, visit www.nsureunion.com or contact Nicole Gray at (972) 897-5357.

Homecoming Luncheon/Long Purple Line Induction
11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Student Union Ballroom

All alumni and supporters are invited to join us for a special Homecoming Luncheon honoring the 2010 Long Purple Line inductees. A social hour will be held in the Student Union Lobby from 11:30 -12:00, followed by a lunch and University address. Tickets are $20 and can be purchased online at www.northwesternalumni.com/2010_luncheon or by contacting Connie White at (318) 357-4270 or email at whitec@nsula.edu. Business Casual Dress. RSVP by October 22nd.

Black Alumni Alliance Reunion Picnic
12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. – Practice Field next to Field House

Join the NSU BAA for our reunion picnic and tailgating festivities, featuring a delicious barbecue meal with BBQ chicken, potato salad, baked beans, rolls and soft drinks. Meal with drinks will be available for $5 each. For more information, visit www.nsureunion.com or contact Nicole Gray at (972) 897-5357.

Homecoming Parade
2:30 p.m.

The annual homecoming parade will begin on the NSU campus, travel through downtown Natchitoches and end on the NSU Practice Field at the tailgating area. Come join us downtown for this special event!

Pep Rally
3:00 p.m./Immediately Following Parade - Tailgating Field

Join NSU President Randy Webb, Coach Bradley Dale Peveto and all of our Homecoming Honorees for a special pep rally and recognition ceremony packed with entertainment from our NSU spirit groups.

Alumni Pavilion Ribbon Cutting
3:30 p.m. - Alumni Pavilion

NSU Alumni and friends are invited to kick off the Homecoming tailgate with the Alumni Association as they unveil a newly constructed 3,700 square foot covered pavilion.

Alumni Tailgating
3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Alumni Pavilion

The NSU Alumni Association and Student Alumni Association (SAA) will be serving a special Cajun dinner for $5 per plate. All NSU Alumni and SAA members are invited to come by the tent and grab something to eat before the game. It will be a great time to visit with friends you haven't seen in a while and build relationships among fellow alumni.

Tailgating Activities
3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Tailgating Field

Various groups, including Greek Organizations, N-Club, ROTC, College of Education and many more!

Pregame Activities
5:30 p.m. - Turpin Stadium

Enjoy the pre-game show by the Spirit of Northwestern Marching Band and other game day activities.

Homecoming Game vs. Sam Houston State
6:00 p.m. - Turpin Stadium

To purchase tickets for the game, please contact Adam Jonson at (318) 357-4268 or email at jonsona@nsula.edu.

Halftime Ceremonies
7:30 p.m. (approx.) - Turpin Stadium

Black Alumni Alliance Homecoming Party
10:00 p.m. – Natchitoches Events Center

All alumni are invited to dress up in your grooviest 70s attire for this Old School Masquerade Party, featuring entertainment from Q106.5's DJ Incredible, a delicious buffet and cash bar, and a Special Guest. Cash prizes will be awarded to the Best Male and Female costumes. For more information, visit www.nsureunion.com or contact Nicole Gray at (972) 897-5357.

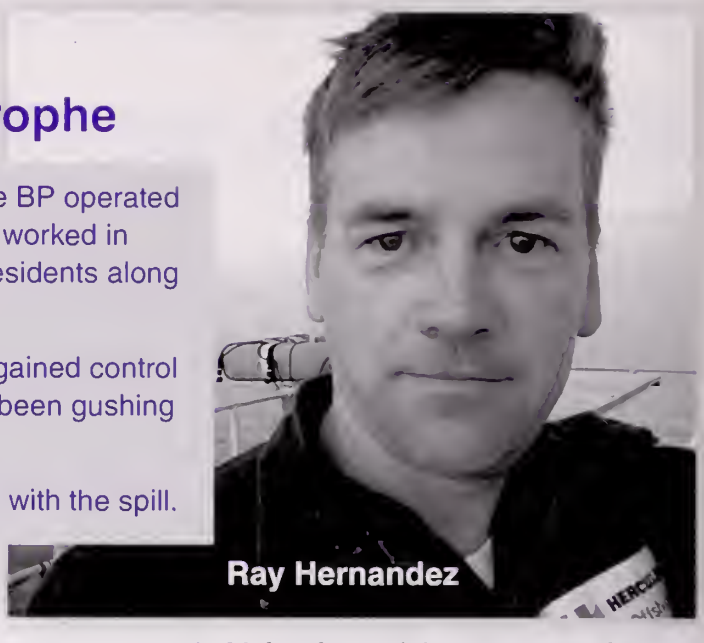
Oil and Water

Alumni respond to Gulf catastrophe

In the aftermath of the deadly April 20 explosion on the BP operated Deepwater Horizon oil rig, many Northwestern alumni worked in various capacities to mitigate the disaster and serve residents along the Gulf coast.

After 85 days and up to 184 million gallons, BP finally gained control over the spill by capping the runaway geyser that had been gushing crude into the Gulf of Mexico since early spring.

Three alumni provided glimpses into their experiences with the spill.



Ray Hernandez

As commander of the 928th Sapper Company, 769th, and chief of the mitigation section of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, **Capt. Jeffrey L. Giering (1997)** was a project manager for the construction of protective wall barriers placed along the Gulf coast in Cameron and Lafourche parishes.

The Louisiana National Guard's 225th Engineer Brigade installed the 8-1/2 mile long wall barriers in an effort to keep oil-tainted water from reaching inland. The efforts of Giering and his fellow soldiers were featured in several news outlets based on reports from a National Guard public information officer as engineer battalions from Ruston, Monroe and Baton Rouge worked together to assemble and fill the Hesco Concertainer units.

In Cameron Parish, more than 150 soldiers worked on the month-long project, intended to protect more than 4,000 acres of marsh. Even though many of the same guardsmen helped build a similar Hesco barrier the previous month in Port Fourchon, the approach to building this barrier had to be altered to deal with the different terrain.

"In Port Fourchon, we were basically isolated on the beach and it was easier to maneuver through the sand," said Giering. "In Cameron, we were working in soft, grassy areas only 30 feet from Highway 82, one of the parish's main highways, where traffic was a constant factor. We had to use tracked vehicles instead of the wheeled ones we used in Port Fourchon because they had a tendency to get stuck."

Jeff Giering was among the soldiers of the Louisiana National Guard's 225th Engineer Brigade to construct a wall of sand-filled Hesco Concertainer units in Cameron, to help keep oil-tainted water in the Gulf of Mexico from moving inland over the summer.

Hesco units are multi-cellular wall systems made of coated steel wire mesh and linked with vertical coil joints. Once erected, the units were filled with sand to form a barrier against possible oil encroachment. The baskets keep oil from moving to the shore and serve as a surge protector when water reaches high tide.

"I have soldiers from all walks of life, students, neighbors, cousins, new and old soldiers," Giering said. "It was hard work, difficult work conditions and extremely hot. One thing I have learned is soldiers are hard workers that care about the jobs they are tasked with executing. We spent long days in the hot sun to build this protective measure for the Louisiana coast. We take great pride in the work we do. We truly believe we make a difference."

After graduating from NSU in 1997, Giering joined the Louisiana Army National Guard "after deciding with my family that I could not ask others to protect my family, if I was not willing to do it myself."

Upon entering the Guard, he went to basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C., and from there to Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

"When I returned to Louisiana in 2004, I immediately went to Officer Candidate School. I have served in several units in Louisiana. I have been a platoon leader in Marksville, an Executive Officer in Baker, an Assistant Operations Officer in Baton Rouge. As an Assistant Operations Officer I deployed to Iraq in 2007-2008. Upon my return to Louisiana I began my career as a Company Commander of the 928th, where I still serve today. It has been a pleasure to serve the citizens of this country and my state. I am very proud of my Soldiers and the things we do in the service of our country.

Ray Hernandez (1994) is 1st Mate on a lift boat, a vessel with "legs" as long as 200 feet on each corner that allow it to elevate or lift out of the water, which provides a stable platform to work and/or conduct business.

"I work on the Sailfish, which was contracted by BP shortly after the spill. BP contracted our vessel to serve as the command vessel for Task Force 4, Perdido Pass, Fla. Furthermore, we serve as an offshore office and storage platform for the Coast Guard and BP officials. The advantage for them is they can be on sight in a comfortable, office-like environment to coordinate the recon and recovery vessels in this area."

Hernandez snapped this picture of a network news team reporting on the spill.

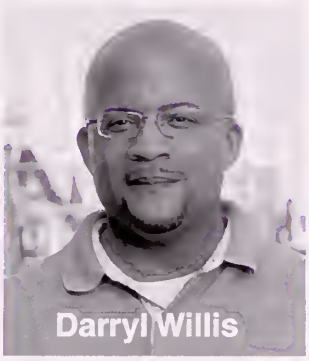
Hernandez, who recently obtained his captain's license, began working as a first mate a couple of years ago following a downturn in industrial sales.

Over the summer, the Sailfish often had several Coast Guard representatives and one or two BP company men on board.

Pictured above is a decontamination vessel, which circled ships to remove oil before returning to the bay and dock.

"We coordinated reconnaissance and cleanup with Coast Guard helicopters, U.S. Coast Guard vessels and private vessels. We also made sure they had the necessary supplies to do that in addition to providing basics such as water, food and first aid if necessary while they performed those tasks," Hernandez said. "Earlier in June, we got involved ourselves. We also have large cranes on board and they requested our assistance in recovering a one-ton tar ball."

Perhaps the most recognizable NSU alumnus associated with the oil spill is **Darryl Willis (1991)**, BP's vice president for Geoscience and Engineering in North America, who appeared in television, print and radio advertisements.



Darryl Willis

Willis volunteered to join the original team organized to help victims of the oil disaster and, because of his experiences dealing with the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, quickly saw the need to standardize a process by which people could file claims for compensation. For three months during the summer, his workdays stretched from 12-20 hours as he met with residents, officials and businesspeople along the coast, organizing the claims process. His priorities were "being sensitive to people, get a claims process up and running as quickly as possible and getting emergency payments out. We also needed to have people on the ground who were from the region and would be compassionate."

Willis is a resident of Houston, but was raised in New Orleans and experienced the frustration that results in dealing with red tape following the loss of his mother's home to Katrina.

"The spill is not comparable to the aftermath of Katrina. That was a different type of disaster. The complexity is different because the spill impacted Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. The response goes out to the entire Gulf Coast. The thing they have in common is the people who were affected, those who were devastated. Our challenge is to meet the needs of the people the in communities. From things I learned from Katrina, I experienced how discouraging the process could be. The last thing you need is a hassle."

In helping make the claims process more efficient, Willis "encountered the whole spectrum of emotions, from anger to fear to those who were totally disillusioned.

"What kept me going every day were the people I visited with. I was inspired by the people I met every day during community meetings, at outreach centers and in people's homes."

In May, a company executive asked Willis if he would say a few words about the claims process. At the time, he didn't realize that he would become a spokesman for the company, delivering a message to Gulf Coast residents through advertising and numerous network interviews.

By the end of July, the claims process was being transitioned to an independent commission and Willis returned to his former position in Houston, happy to rejoin his family and the "new normal" running the technical operations for business in the lower 48 States. He foresaw a long period of transition over the next year and a half.

"I've had crisis management training, but there is no better training than a real crisis. This was an unprecedented event and an unprecedented response," he said. "For me it's been a privilege to be a part of the response. I hope I played a small role in helping people along the Gulf coast."

Army Ground Forces Band commander's baton passes to NSU alum

Capt. Treg Ancelet conducted The Army Ground Forces Band during a recent concert. The talented and convivial Ancelet, a Northwestern State alumnus, now leads one of America's major Army bands. (U.S. Army photo by Spec. Brian Bohannon, The Army Ground Forces Band)

Capt. Treg Ancelet (1993) assumed the duties as commander of The Army Ground Forces Band during a change of command ceremony at Fort McPherson, Ga., July 8.

The Army Ground Forces Band is one of only three Army bands with a national touring mission and is part of the Army's largest command. Ancelet had been serving as the staff bands officer at Army Forces Command Headquarters.

Ancelet is a former drum major of the Spirit of Northwestern Demon Marching Band.

"I am honored to be given the opportunity to lead one of the best bands in the Army," Ancelet said. "I intend to carry on the tradition set by my predecessor in deeply caring for America, the Army and our mission of instilling patriotic pride in our country as we perform for soldiers, their families and our communities."

Ancelet holds a Bachelor of Arts in music education from Northwestern and a Master's Degree in Music from George Mason University (2000), where he studied with Professor Anthony Maiello and served as assistant director of the wind ensemble.

Before assuming his FORSCOM duties, he was the deputy commander of the United States Military Academy Band, where he served as officer in charge of the "Helleats," the Army's oldest established musical unit.

While serving at West Point, Capt. Ancelet led ceremonies on the famous parade field with "The Long Gray Line," musically supported funerals for some of the country's most recognized generals and conducted concerts at Trophy Point overlooking the Hudson River. He says he is proudest of leading the fight song as the football team charged into the stadium for the Army-Navy football game.

His other assignments included serving as executive officer and associate conductor of The U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command Band and as executive officer of the Advanced Individual Training (AIT) Company, U.S. Army School of Music.

As just one of only three Army bands with a national touring mission, The Army Ground Forces Band travels the nation, performing at local, regional and national events. The band also conducts master classes and clinics for music students at high schools and colleges around the country.

The 64 Soldiers assigned to the AGFB have passed highly selective auditions and are among the finest musicians in the United States Army Band Program. The majority of the band's members have studied music at some of the finest universities and conservatories.

Twenty-two brothers of Gamma Psi Chapter of Kappa Alpha from the 1960s gathered in Alexandria at the Oak Wing Golf Club in July for a day of golf, memories, story-telling and lies. Some of the men had not seen each other in over 40 years. The day was so full of fun and laughter it was decided this was to be an annual gathering. A number of the KAs from that era are now deceased and they were remembered in exaggerated and fondly told stories. Attending were, seated from left, Martial Broussard, Steve Shine, Malcolm Morris, Jim Pierson, Sam Cooksey, Doug Patrick and Denman Shaffer. Standing are Jimbo Stevens, Mike Poole, Louis Ledet, Dick Brook, Ricky Harris, Lynn Juban, Spud Wilson, Mike Tingle, Wayne Branton, John Garcia, Don Ater, Richard McElhatten and Bob Maloney. Not shown are Dick Ducote and Joe McKee.

SPOTLIGHTS

The Boys & Girls Club of Jackson-Madison County, Tennessee, welcomed their new and returning executive director **Sabrina Anderson**. Anderson was previously the non-profit's executive director in 2003 - 2005, before she accepted a position at the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Memphis. Anderson is a native of Louisiana and a two-time graduate of Northwestern with a bachelors degree in psychology and a masters in education. She has been working in the Boys & Girls Club movement for 10 years. She looks forward to serving the youth of Madison and Haywood counties.

All three of the educators named by the Vernon Parish School Board as Teachers of the Year for 2010 were Northwestern graduates. They were **Linda Hudgens** (1977), West Leesville Elementary; **Lacey Blocker** (2004), Pickering Elementary and **Brenda Carroll** (1976), Pitkin High School.

Carol Sue Walker (2004) of Pleasant Hill was named Converse Middle School Teacher of the Year for the second year in a row. She teaches seventh and eighth grade English/language. She worked as a juvenile officer for 16 years before entering the teaching profession. She is currently working towards a master's degree in education, curriculum and instruction.

Marc Pettaway, long-time founding director of the ACTS Theatre in Lake Charles, retired this year, after serving as executive director since the theatre's inception. Pettaway has directed and staged theatrical productions every year for the past 50 years.

A graduate of LSU with a BS in education, he acquired a Master of Arts in theatre from Northwestern State University and a Master of Fine Arts in theatre direction from the University of New Orleans. He taught at Tokyo University (English) and Northwestern State University (acting, directing.)

During his years directing, Pettaway has written the books, music and lyrics to more than twenty musicals that have been staged by the Civic Student Theatre division of ACTS, as well as other theatres. While serving the U.S. Army, he was stationed in Japan. This assignment ultimately led to his working at the Kabuki-za National Theatre of Japan and appearing on stage with the Tokyo Western Theatre.

A national championship for triple jumper **Kenta Bell** (2000) gave Northwestern's track and field history a big boost in the 2010 USA Track and Field Outdoor Championships that wrapped up in June.

Bell, a member of Team USA in the 2005 and 2008 Olympic Games, won his specialty with a 55-10 ¼ leap. The 33-year-old Kilgore, Texas, native won by nearly a foot over second place Christian Taylor (55-0) of Florida.

Current Lady Demon All-American **Trecey Rew**, competing in her first USA Championships event, was 12th in the discus with a 162-0 best mark. Matching her school record 179-0 this year would have moved her up to seventh place.

Harry Briggs, the Paddlin' Professor, raised over $1,300 for Northwestern State University's nursing and radiologic science programs at the NSU Cenla Center in Alexandria. Briggs celebrated his 89th birthday with a two-mile swim in Kincaid Lake, ending with a celebration/ fund raiser party at Tunk's Cypress Inn. From left are Briggs, second from left, with event organizers Tommy Tilley, a computer specialist at NSU's Leesville campus; Tunk's owner Jimbo Thiels and Marsha Zulick, executive director of Cenla Programs.

Bridges scholarship established

The family of a Northwestern State University alumnus has established a scholarship to honor their loved one and acknowledge his love and respect for NSU. The Jim Bridges Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to a sophomore through senior student from Natchitoches Parish. The student must maintain a 2.5 grade point average and provide a character reference. The scholarship was established by Bridges' wife Judith and their children Benjamin, Alexis and Audrey.

"Even though we lived out of the country much of the past 20 years, our annual trip to Natchitoches would include at least one tour of the campus as well as new NSU gear from the bookstore," Judith Bridges said. "Jim was extremely proud to have been a graduate from NSU and a citizen from Natchitoches. He felt fortunate that he was allowed the opportunity to attend NSU, and he stayed personally in touch with many people linked to the school - as well as monitoring every sporting event via satellite, and on the Demon Field as time and circumstance allowed."

Bridges was vice president and chief operations officer of EDS (now HP Enterprise Services) for the Asia-Pacific region, where he was responsible for EDS activities in China, Japan, southeast Asia, Australia, New Zealand and India. He was also CEO and chairman of DIS-EDS Limited, an EDS joint venture with Daewoo Informational Systems in South Korea, and a member of the board of directors for EDS Thailand. EDS was a leader in providing business and technology solutions to help its clients worldwide improve their business performance in the areas of information-technology, applications, business process services and information technology transformation services.

Bridges graduated from NSU in 1985. A native of Natchitoches, he joined EDS after graduation and worked for the company in many capacities around the world. In 2007, he was inducted into the NSU College of Business Hall of Distinction. He was also a veteran of the U.S. Air Force.

Bridges passed away in November 2009 after a battle with cancer.

The family of NSU alumnus Jim Bridges have established a scholarship in his memory. From left are Ben Bridges, Judy Bridges and Jill Bankston, assistant director of Development at NSU.

"Jim was a good man, a dedicated father and husband, a faithful servant to God, and a highly successful international businessman who remained humble and inspired others through his examples of compassion, integrity, and Christian values - as well as a sense of humor that endeared him to all," Mrs. Bridges said. "As his family, we would anticipate that the scholarship recipient would primarily share the same pride and love of NSU, Natchitoches Parish, and in particular, demonstrate the desire to represent both as an ambassador out in the world, contributing to society in the spirit of respect for all humanity."

Mrs. Bridges said the ideal recipient of the scholarship would be goal-oriented and self-motivated, an individual with a high degree of integrity and one who seeks to promote ethical values within any work or study environment.

"We feel deep gratitude for the many friends and co-workers of Jim, through their deep respect for him and financial contributions, that have made this dream of the Jim Bridges Memorial Scholarship a reality," she said.

For more information or to contribute to the Jim Bridges Memorial Scholarship, contact the NSU Office of Alumni and Development at (318) 357-4414.

Four members of the Class of 1960 were reunited during the 50-year graduate celebration in May. From left are Karl Moore, Dr. Doyle Williams, Ellis Coutee and Dr. William "Bill" Muse. All are members off the Long Purple Line and the College of Business Hall of Distinction.

For more pictures from the reunion, go to **www.northwesternalumni.com** and click on **Group Photos**.

Alum overcomes severe case of West Nile

Sean Lemoine (1994) has spent the last year battling to recover from an unusually severe case of West Nile Virus, emerging to become a public health advocate on prevention of the disease. Lemoine was infected through mosquito bites in August 2009 while working around his east Dallas home. What followed was an alarming decline in his health over several months in which he suffered through encephalitis, respiratory failure and paralysis. By October 2009, he was given only a 15 percent chance of survival.

There is no indication why Lemoine, a young man in good general health, suffered such a severe case.

Earlier this year, Lemoine was still on the road to recovery, guided by several hours per day of physical, occupational and speech therapy. He had begun writing a book about his recovery experience, which he expected to finish by the end of the summer. In his interview with the Dallas Morning News, Lemoine, an attorney, said he hopes to try a jury trial by 2011.

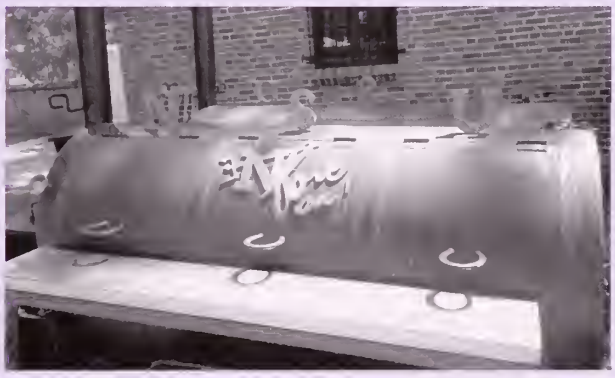
West Nile can be carried by more than 65 mosquito species. The virus causes no symptoms in about 80 percent of the people who are infected and about 20 percent suffer the mild symptoms of headache and fever. About one in 150 people will develop more severe symptoms. Lemoine joined officials from Dallas County last summer as they unveiled their West Nile prevention plan and was the subject of a feature article in the Dallas Morning News.

Lemoine, a Pineville native, earned his undergraduate degree in sociology at NSU and was a member of Kappa Alpha. He applauded his wife Elizabeth for her support and said he was touched by the people who had reached out to him during the ordeal.

Annual Fund

Don't be surprised if you get a call from Northwestern in mid-November. NSU students will be placing calls to our alumni for our Annual Fund Phone-A-Thon. The annual fund supports many programs like alumni scholarships, distinguished faculty awards given by the colleges, Homecoming activities, reunions, chapter development and the Long Purple Line. If you'd like to donate to the Annual Fund but haven't done so yet, go to **www.northwesternalumni.com/annualfund** to make your tax-deductible donation. Thank you for your generous support of the Alumni Association.

Virginia Lee Eversull Jarrett of Alexandria was honored in July with a 100th birthday celebration. Born in 1910, she completed her bachelor's degree at NSU in 1947 and earned a master's in the 1950s. During a celebration attended by family and friends, she was presented with gifts and congratulations on behalf the university,



The Alumni Association's barbecue pit got a facelift thanks to Ronnie and Karen Poche of Ronnie's Auto Glass and Collision Center. The Poches donated the time and materials to spruce up the pit for alumni tailgates.

Clay Jackson (1993) of Jackson Automotive in Natchitoches donated a 2009 Chevrolet sedan to the Northwestern State University Foundation, which will help defray university travel and car rental expenses. He is shown presenting the keys to Tony Hernandez (1982), assistant director of Institutional Advancement.

NSU restructures programs to combat severe budget cuts

Deep budget cuts and impending financial shortfalls led to drastic changes at Northwestern this year, including the elimination of programs, staff lay-offs and an extensive academic reorganization.

As of July 1, NSU eliminated eight bachelor's degree programs, one master's degree offering, 12 academic minors and five concentrations in baccalaureate degree programs.

NSU President Dr. Randall J. Webb said the academic realignment "still leaves students a vast array of offerings through redesigned academic areas and strong interdisciplinary programs to pursue career opportunities directly related to fields in which majors or degrees are proposed for elimination."

Eliminated degree programs are the master's degree in heritage resources and bachelor's degrees in physics, physics education, chemistry, chemistry education, heritage resources, journalism, sociology and political science. Minors in aviation science, geology, physics, chemistry, journalism, sociology, German, French, historic preservation, philosophy, political science and food and nutrition have been cut. Concentrations in aviation science, recreation administration, fashion merchandising and housing and interiors, economics and German have also been eliminated.

The College of Business is now the School of Business under the reorganized College of Science, Technology and Business. The University College, College of Liberal Arts, Graduate School and Louisiana Scholars' College have merged to form the College of Arts, Letters, Graduate Studies and Research. The College of Nursing has expanded to become the College of Nursing and Allied Health, and the College of Education is now the College of Education and Human Development.

A number of academic departments have consolidated and shifted to new colleges. Newly created or consolidated departments include Language and Communication; Engineering Technology and Computer Information Systems; Mathematics and Physical Sciences and Criminal Justice, History and Social Sciences. The Bachelor's of Arts in Journalism has been replaced by a new track in the bachelor's degree in communication in the Department of Language and Communication. The supervision of remaining journalism courses have transferred to that department.

The bachelor's in computer information systems and its related minor and concentrations, along with the faculty, have moved to the Department of Engineering Technology and Computer Information Systems. The Department of Chemistry and Physics has been eliminated. Those faculty and courses have transferred to the Department of Mathematics and Physical Sciences. With the loss of bachelor programs in sociology, heritage resources and political sciences, remaining faculty and courses will be supervised in the new Department of Criminal Justice, History and Social Sciences.

The program eliminations and changes will go into effect in August 2011 after a one-year, three-month "teach-out" period. Webb said students enrolled in programs affected will be assisted in completing their degrees in the "teach-out" period, selecting a related major or transferring to another university.

"We will closely monitor the students in these programs to ensure a smooth transition or completion of degree," he said.

The proposal for reorganization came after a comprehensive review of academic programs by the university's Program Review Committee, comprised of representatives from each academic college and the NSU Faculty Senate.

Webb said proposals to eliminate or consolidate programs were based on "costs, efficiency, completion rates, semester credit hour production, ties to the University Core Curriculum, enrollment and other pertinent factors." He added that annual reviews of remaining academic programs "will be conducted to evaluate retention, student success, recruitment and the overall effectiveness of the programs."

Academic reorganization was necessary, Webb said, because of $9.7 million in state budget cuts over the past two years and projections of additional reductions in state funding of up to $10 million during the next year. State allocations to the university have been cut by 19.5 percent since July 2008. Northwestern has eliminated 160 positions through layoffs and abolishing vacant positions since the 2007-08 fiscal year, reducing the size of the faculty and staff from more than 960 positions to just over 800.

The academic realignment plan will result in the elimination of an additional 21 positions by the end of the new fiscal year that began July 1. The positions of three academic deans, four department heads or directors and three program coordinators will be abolished. Webb said program elimination and other aspects of academic reorganization will result in cost savings of approximately $2.5 million. The 160 positions that were previously abolished reduced personnel costs by some $5 million.

In addition to reducing the number of faculty and staff positions, the university has curtailed funding for adjunct instruction, athletics, student employment, graduate assistantships and departmental budgets for travel, supplies and operating services.

Webb expressed "deep concern and compassion for the faculty and staff members whose lives are being negatively affected by these unprecedented budget cuts and for students who could feel the impact of academic reorganization and other funding reductions. Every effort is being made to maintain essential programs and services for students, to assist faculty and staff affected by budget cuts and to ensure the continuing strength and stability of this 125-year-old university," he said.

Winnfield Reception-Golf Scramble

Approximately 100 Northwestern State University alumni, guests, future students and their families gathered at Winnfield's Pine Ridge Country Club for a prime rib dinner and athletic preview on July 26. The event was the culminating event of the annual Don Purser Memorial Golf Scramble, held earlier in the day, as well as one of the Athletic Department's 2010 Demon Victory Tour stops. Family members of the late Don Purser are, from left, Rich Gunter, Jane Purser, Donny Purser, Richmond Gunter, Mike Tinnerello and Matt Purser.

Bonnette Memorial

Family members of the late Buddy Bonnette were on hand during the 10th annual Buddy Bonnette golf scramble. From left are Shawnee Bonnette, Vera Bonnette and Paula Nelson. On the back row are Randy Bonnette, James Barrios, Brian Bonnette, Brian Allen Nelson and Buddy Bonnette scholarship recipient Cord Larson.

Kandahar Alumni Chapter

Former members of Demon Battalion ROTC had dinner at Police Headquarters in Kandahar City, Afghanistan, on July 4. From left are U.S. Army First Lieutenant Danielle Champagne Johnson (2008), U.S. Army Major Matt Mularoni (1997), U.S. Army Captain Tommy Sieker (2007) and U.S. Army Major Larry Bergeron (1997).

Samantha Collins from Winnfield Senior High School was named the Winnfield area recipient of the Ted Jones Scholarship. Reed Thomas from NSU's Office of Recruiting congratulated her.

Alumni Gatherings

Board of Realtors

NSU students Nicholas Antee and Brooke Hubbard are this year's recipients of scholarships presented annually by the Natchitoches Board of Realtors. From left are Patti Waddle, NBR secretary; NSU's assistant Director of Development Jill Bankston, Antee, Hubbard, NBR President Susan Begnaud and NBR Treasurer Cathy Davis.

Realtors group presents scholarships

Nicholas Antee of Cloutierville and Brooke Hubbard of Campti have been named as this year's recipients of two scholarships annually presented by The Natchitoches Board of Realtors to Northwestern State University students. The scholarships are presented to a male and female sophomore level student from the Natchitoches area majoring in business or a related field for one academic year. The students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average and show a financial need.

Antee is pursuing a degree in accounting. Hubbard is pursuing a degree in business. Both are graduates of Natchitoches Central High School.

"The Natchitoches Board of Realtors supports our local NSU students in advancing their education. They are our future," said Susan Begnaud, NBR president.

Demon Victory Fund drive underway

The 2010-2011 Demon Victory Fund (DVF) annual fund drive campaign is underway as the Northwestern State Athletic Association begins preparations for a crucial year for the university and the department, and Athletic Association members are being asked to support its fundraising efforts.

The DVF is the NSU Athletic Association's unrestricted fund program, which helps underwrite scholarship and book costs. Last year, nearly 200 individuals and businesses pledged $1,000 or more in support of the DVF, and over 600 total individuals either made a financial contribution of $60 or more, or joined the Student Athletic Association. For the 2010-11 campaign, the DVF is asking for members' help to identify more interested members.

The Demon Victory Fund Team Drive will feature teams of four volunteers who will make inquiries among their friends, family, colleagues, and alumni networks and attempt to sign up individuals and businesses for DVF memberships.

Individuals interested in participating should contact Broussard and let him know who their team members will be. The rules for participation and information on the prizes for winning teams can be obtained by contacting the NSU Athletic Association at 318 357-4295, or at broussardw@nsula.edu via e-mail.

McGee gift will go towards Fieldhouse renovations

Buffalo Bills Pro Bowl standout Terrence McGee, an All-American during his four seasons playing football for Northwestern State, has made a $25,000 gift to support NSU's Athletic Fieldhouse renovation project.

NSU athletics director Greg Burke announced the gift, which is enabling upgrades to the Athletic Fieldhouse built in 1979. McGee's gift specifically helps replace office and player meeting room furniture that has been in place since the facility was built 31 years ago. The total to complete the second floor's furniture phase of this initiative was $130,000, completely raised through private gifts to the NSU Athletic Association.

"Northwestern State was a great experience for me on and off the field," said McGee, about to begin his eighth season in the NFL, all with Buffalo. "I'm excited to help out on the Fieldhouse project and look forward to working on more projects in the coming years."

Named to the Top 100 Players in Demon Football History roster in the program's 2007 Centennial Celebration, McGee, a native of Athens, Texas, played for the Demons from 1999-2002. McGee's contribution is the largest single gift by a former Demon football player active in the professional ranks. McGee's gift will be identified with his name on the office for the defensive backs coach's office, occupied by safeties coach and defensive coordinator Brad Laird, and on the defensive backs meeting room.

Naming opportunities for rooms throughout the Fieldhouse are available for interested donors, said Burke. McGee and other donors participating in naming opportunities are recognized on the Athletic Association section of the www.nsudemons.com website.

NSU director of athletics Greg Burke, scholarship donor Jill Cantrell Morrison, associate AD Dr. William Broussard and Jill Bankston of the NSU Alumni Association posed during the 2010 NSU Alumni Association Crawfish Boil held at Morrison's home in Dallas.

Donation supports athletics

One of Jill Cantrell Morrison's first jobs was as a student worker in the Northwestern State athletic department. Recently she made a commitment that ensures the opportunity for future NSU students.

Morrison (1993), a Marthaville native, recently committed to establishing the "Jill Cantrell Morrison Scholarship" through the NSU Endowed Athletic Scholarship program. The $10,000 endowed scholarship will provide funding to support the NSU Athletic Administration office.

This is not the first time Morrison, who now resides in Dallas with her husband Dave, has shown support for her alma mater. Each year for the past four years, Jill has hosted the Dallas-Fort Worth area alumni event at her home.

"Northwestern is such a special place for education and community. I am both thrilled and honored to have this opportunity to partner with the Demon Athletic Department," noted Morrison.

Burke earns AD of the Year honors

Greg Burke, athletics director at Northwestern State since 1996, was among 29 winners of the Under Amour AD of the Year Award announced Monday by the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA).

He was also among four winners involved in a Street and Smith's SportsBusiness Journal panel discussion on current Division I athletics issues released earlier this year by the publication. Burke was also recently installed as president of the Football Championship Subdivision Athletics Directors Association.

Burke's 14 years as athletic director include 32 Southland Conference regular-season or tournament championships, 51 All-American and Academic All-American student athletes, and three U.S. Olympic competitors. Under his guidance, Northwestern State has led all 13 public institutions in Louisiana, and all 12 Southland Conference institutions, in the NCAA's Academic Progress Rate and Graduation Success Rate reports. The school's athletic facilities have undergone nearly $6 million in improvements in the past four years.

The Under Armour AD of the Year Award program was created to honor intercollegiate directors of athletics for their commitment and administrative excellence within a campus and/or college community environment. The award spans seven divisions (NCAA FBS, FCS, Division I non-football, Division II, III, NAIA/Other Four-Year Institutions and Junior/Community Colleges) and annually honors 29 athletics directors (four from each division) as regional winners, and one international recipient.

Criteria include commitment to higher education and student-athletes, demonstrated continuous teamwork, loyalty and excellence, and the ability to inspire individuals or groups to high levels of accomplishment. Other standards include leadership and/or significant outreach for the betterment of youth and/or the local community, and service on NACDA and NCAA committees.

Stewart scholarship established to honor family legacy

The Stewart Brothers' Endowed Basketball Scholarship has been established at NSU, continuing a proud tradition and rich legacy established by three outstanding Doyline natives whose character, scholarship and competitive careers brought great credit to the Demons beginning in the 1950s and continuing today, said athletics director Greg Burke.

The scholarship has been established in memory of Bill Stewart by his children, Mark and Tara Stewart and by Jimmy Stewart on behalf of himself and his brother, Tommy Stewart. Other donors who contributed to the scholarship include friends and former teammates of the Stewart brothers at Northwestern.

It also is an expression of gratitude to 12th-year Demons basketball coach Mike McConathy, who has reached throughout the nearly century-old history of that program to unite former players and pay tribute to their involvement.

The scholarship, according to Jimmy Stewart, "is established in appreciation to Coach McConathy who makes an effort to remember all Demons in a special way."

The idea for establishing the scholarship was first broached in memory of Bill Stewart, whose contributions and life were memorialized at the Demon Basketball Alumni Reunion in 2008. In 1999, his first year as head coach of the program where his father, uncles and sons

are letterwinners, McConathy began hosting the annual reunions during a Saturday in preseason practice.

Northwestern State University's Endowed Athletic Scholarship Program includes the donations of generous benefactors totaling $10,000 or more ($100,000 for fully endowed scholarships) which assist the department in underwriting the cost of scholarships for all NSU student-athletes. For more information, please contact Dr. William Broussard, Executive Director of the Athletic Association, at 318 357-4295, or broussardw@nsula.edu via e-mail.

Why I Love NSU

Actually, my freshman year (1969-1970) it was still NSC, I believe. It changed to NSU while I was there. I did not choose NSC (NSU). I was supposed to have gone to Ohio State, but my dad got transferred from Columbus to Shreveport my senior year of high school. I went on a hunger strike trying to persuade my parents to send me "back home," but they insisted I stay in Louisiana, so they packed me up one Sunday and moved me into Varnado Hall, domain of the intrepid Mrs. Kirkland!

During the first week of orientation, I had to go to a welcome session for freshman at Prather Coliseum. A cute guy came and sat down next to me. In his welcome address, President Kilpatrick said, "Many marriages begin on our campus. Look at the person sitting next to you. You might be seeing him or her at the altar some day in the near future!" The cute guy and I exchanged phone numbers. Now we have been married 38 years!

I was one of a handful of French majors on campus. I have fond memories of Monsieur Demeule and Monsieur Wertelaers, the only two French instructors at the time. I became best friends with one of the other French majors, Karen Landrum. We still see each other frequently.

Some other fond memories: Tech weekend parties at the old Washington-Youree; panty raids: KA parties at the Fountain Blue restaurant; Shell Beach; parking by the lake and fearing campus security; polyester pantsuits; Mr. Lucky's stuffed potatoes in the student union; campus concerts – John Denver, Stevie Wonder, and Oliver just to name a few!; room checks; the Funky Chicken; bell bottoms; Mrs. Dunham's frequent all-calls in Louisiana Hall; Duty's Pizza; wigs (we all wore them!); Old South lawn parties at Beau Fort; sorority rush parties (I pledged Phi Mu but didn't go active); Christmas Lights; the old library (long gone!); my nudist pot-luck roommate; electric typewriters and CorrectTape; Bobby Harling before he was famous; College Manor apartment complex when it was predominantly inhabited by the KAs.

I was only on campus for three years because I went to summer school every year. I never felt like I learned a lot about education until I did my student teaching. But my degree from NSU has taken me from a job at a small private academy to a job in a medium-sized public school to my current job as an assistant principal in charge of academics at Loyola College Prep. My husband and I still love to drive across campus and reminisce whenever we're in Natchitoches. Maybe one of our four grandchildren will end up at NSU!

- Karen Jayne Dill (1972)

Lost Ring

Billy Wiggins (1971) is seeking help in finding a class ring. The ring was lost in Houston but he hopes that, if found, someone may return the ring to the university or to someone affiliated with NSU.

"It had the wheat crest with a quarter diamond in the middle, the old columns on one side and the old building by the old fountain on the other, BS of Business 1971, initials WJW on inside of it," he said. "My wife gave it to me as a graduation gift and took her forever in those days to save up the money. It is a very special ring to me."

Wiggins said the ring was purchased at the ring store next to campus next to Holy Cross Catholic Church.

If anyone finds the ring, please can contact the Alumni Center (318) 357-4414.

Calling all Alumni!

The Northwestern State Alumni Association is forming formal alumni chapters across the United States. The Alumni Association feels that chapters will play an important role in accomplishing objectives that are vital to the future of NSU and the Association. Alumni chapters will provide a forum in which former students can assist each other and become informed spokespersons on behalf of Northwestern State. Chapter members will also be able to cultivate relationships with prospective students within the area in order to transmit current information about academic programs, scholarship opportunities and advantages available at NSU.

We currently have formal Alumni Chapters in the following areas:

Arkansas	Jessica Breaux	breauxj@hotmail.com
Atlanta	Anita Helton	anita.b.helton@ampf.com
Baton Rouge	Debbie Harding	dharding@cox.net
Dallas	Mandy Owens	mandyowens82@gmail.com
Greater New Orleans	Leonard Williams	leonardawilliams@gmail.com
Houston	Brett Harris	brett1harris@verizon.net
Lafayette	Amy Comeaux	amykarlyn@gmail.com
Las Vegas	Shelley Franklin	jakeandshelley@hotmail.com
Midland/Odessa	Fred & Chris Newman	cnewman100@suddenlink.net
Mississippi	Margaret Cooper	kjungrl@bellsouth.net
San Antonio	Doris Westbrook	doris_westbrook@hotmail.com
Oklahoma	Brian and Crista Hobbs	nsuhobbs@yahoo.com
Orlando	Paul Darlington	pwddad@aol.com
Pacific Northwest	Tom Putnam	putnam.tom@gmail.com
Shreveport/Bossier	Rosemary Fiorentino	ro.fiorentino@yahoo.com

If you are interested in joining one of the chapters above, please contact the individual listed next to the alumni chapter. The Alumni Association is always looking for places to start new chapters, so if you would like to create and alumni chapter in your area contact Lyndsey Miller at millerl@nsula.edu or (318) 357-4415.

Alumni Updates

1938
Justine Brunson is a retired home economics teacher and lives in Geismar.

1956
Ann Louise Fitzpatrick Graham is a retired nursing supervisor and lives in Bossier City.

1960
Louise Lane West is a retired vocational rehabilitation counselor and lives in Lafayette.

1961
Margaret Ann Nash Savell is a retired teacher and lives in Hampton, Va.

1962
Ranita L. Blake Peterson is a retired teacher and lives in Shreveport.

1964
Joyce D. Barrett Carter is a retired counselor, married and lives in Elgin, Texas.

1965
G. Lamar Bates is retired, married to Diane Nickerson Bates ('67) and lives in Dawsonville, Ga.

1966
Ruth-Anne Eileen Hoffstadt Hammons is a retired teacher, married and lives in Gretna.

Judith L. McLain Vercher is a marriage and family therapist and lives in Birmingham, Ala.

1969
David M. French is retired, married and lives in Raymond, Miss.

Lynn Ellen Nollkamper Hebert is retired, married and lives in Leander, Texas.

1970
J. Larry Kees is retired, married to Rhonda Coleman Kees ('71) and lives in Columbus, Ga.

1971
Ronald Louis Haworth is a self-employed landsman/right-of-way consultant, married to Elaine Richard Haworth ('72) and lives in Alexandria.

1972
Elaine Richard Haworth is a retired elementary school principal, married to Ronald Louis Haworth ('71) and lives in Alexandria.

Lynda Gayle Barton Binning Laffitte is a retired educator, married and lives in Benton.

1981
Debbie Watson Smith is a nephrology social worker, married and lives in San Antonio, Texas.

1985
Sara Mignona Coté is a card information security executive for Bank of America, married to David Rodriguez ('85).

1991
Veronica Dianne Lewis is a paralegal for the United States Army and lives in Columbus, Ga.

Christopher Ivan Lund is employed as an assistant city attorney, married and lives in New Orleans.

1992
Jason B. Parks is the director of workforce investment board for the Rapides Parish Police Jury, married to Kelly E. Carpenter Parks ('91).

1993
Lori Doneen Grant is employed as a registered nurse at Byrd Regional Hospital and St. Patrick Hospital and lives in Boyce.

1994
Anna M. Sepulvado Fletcher is a paraprofessional and signer for the hearing impaired at Huntington High School, married and lives in Keatchie.

Teresa Anita Basco is a regional coordinator for the state of Louisiana and lives in Slidell.

Stephanie Sandwell received her M.Ed in Curriculum and Instruction on May 8, 2010 from Wayne State College in Wayne, Nebraska. She is currently employed by the Sioux City school district in Sioux City, Iowa.

1998
Lisa Michelle Ortiz-Furnish Moffett is employed by Synergy Home Health as a registered nurse, married and lives in Shreveport.

Gretchen Daly Milligan is employed by Cardiovascular Institute of the South as a physician recruitment and development manager, married and lives in Lafayette.

1999
Jeremy Seth LaCombe is a self-employed attorney, married and lives in Baton Rouge.

Justine C. Reilly (JC) is an academic advisor for Ivan Allen College at Georgia Tech and lives in Atlanta, Ga.

2000
Robert J. McCormack is a shift manager at Samuel Adams Brewery, married and lives in Cincinnati, Ohio.

2001
Sarah Katherine Cloutier Willis is an office manger/optician at Cloutier Eye Care, married and lives in Houma.

2002
Autumn Grant is an assistant professor of Latin American History at Roger Williams University and lives in Oxford, Miss.

2003
Scott D. Murrell is employed with the Louisiana Army National Guard 239th Military Police Company and the Louisiana Commission Law Enforcement as a criminal justice policy planner. He is married and lives in Baton Rouge.

2004
Brian Mark Hobbs is employed with Farmer's Insurance as an insurance agent, married to Crista Miller Hobbs ('05) and lives in Bixby, Okla.

Tiffany Dawn Stevenson is a fifth grade teacher at Faith Family Academy and lives in Dallas, Texas.

Continued on next page

In Memory

1934 – Shirley Winfree Gayle, May 22, 2010, Lake Charles

1937 – Lillie Adams Johnson, Oct. 28, 2008, Mansfield

1938 – Carroll G. Killen, Sept. 29, 2009, Slingerlands, N.Y.

1940 – Annie Accardo, Dec. 21, 2009, Rockledge, Fla.

1940 – Frances Virginia Chandler McAlpin, July 22, 2010, Natchitoches

1941 – Harold A. "Bud" Marron, July 13, 2020, Vidalia

1943 – Elizabeth Wardlow Gunn, July 21, 2010, Montgomery

1948 – Bobbie Lee Myers Harris, July 22, 2010, DeRidder

1949 – Jettie Jane James Johnson, June 19, 2010, Waterproof

1949, 1957 - Margaret Whiteside Ackel, Aug. 22, 2010, Natchitoches

1949 – John William Davis, June 19, 2010, Baton Rouge

1951 – Jesse Hugh Johnson, April 8, 2010, Cedar Park, Texas

1954 – Ann Brock, July 12, 2010, Bossier City

1954 Patricia Winkler Thompson, Nacogdoches, Texas, January 2, 2010

1956, 1961 – Frederick J. Martinez, July 15, 2010, Waycross, Ga.

1957 – Samuel Joseph Callia, July 19, 2010, Shreveport

1958 – Gloria Emerson Bielamowicz, March 15, 2010, Plainfield, Ill.

1961 – Daphne Allen Browning, April 27, 2010, Sarepta

1975 Donalvin Lee Mayo, Fort Supply, Okla., April 8, 2008

1978 - Carl Wolfgang Andrew, Feb. 5, 2010, Woodstock, Ga.

1979 – Julie Lawhon Evans, July 24, 2010, Mansfield

1988 - Michael Sinclair Mason, June 13, 2010, Shreveport

2000 – Xanthia Denise Calahan, May 25, 2010, Jonesboro

Joan Davis Baldwin, July 9, 2010, Madison, Ala.

Looking back

In commmoration of the 100th anniversary of the NSU band program that kicks off next year, take a look at this performance of the pep band during a 1985 basketball game.

The band will mark its 100th anniversary throughout 2011 with a roster of activities planned throughout the year, beginning with an appearance in the 25th annual London New Year's Day parade

Guess Who?

1960 began a new decade and Northwestern State College's student leaders were recognized for their efforts in promoting a better campus. Can you name the senior class officers from that year? The first five alumni to call the Alumni Center at (318) 357-4414 with the correct answers will win a prize.

Members of the SUGB executive committee during the 1979-80 academic year, featured in Guess Who of the Summer Edition of Alumni Columns were Maggie Horton, Julie Parker, Linda Lege, Ron Thomas and Jim Goodwin.

Readers who correctly identified them were:
Chris Soileau 1981 • Terry McCarty 1980 • Thomas Brassell 1979
Derek Anderson 1980 • Ron Thomas 1981

Alumni Updates
continued

2005
Crista M. Miller Hobbs is a physician assistant at St. Francis Hospital, married to Brian Hobbs ('04) and lives in Bixby, Okla.

2007
Sara Elizabeth Burling Russell is a nuclear medicine technologist at Cardiology Associates, married and lives in Bossier City.

2008
Latisha McDaniel is employed by Natchitoches Area Convention and Visitors Bureau as a media public relations consultant and lives in Natchitoches.

2009
Kristen Renee Brennan is an administrative assistant at Alexandria Business Machines and lives in Boyce.

Jennifer Marie Brumley is a supervisor at Wal-Mart and lives in Montgomery.

For more Alumni Updates please visit our website: www.northwesternalumni.com

Alumni Updates

Visit our website at www.northwesternalumni.com and click on "First Time Log-In" or use this printed form.

Please fill this page out as completely as possible. We are constantly revising our records and your information updates are vital to making the system work. The information from this form is also used for entries in the "Alumni Updates" section. Please make a copy of this page and give it to any NSU graduate who may not be on our list. We can't keep in touch with you if we can't find you! Thank you.

Date_____

Name: (Miss, Mrs. Mr.)_____
Please Circle Last First Middle Maiden

Current address:_____

City:_____State:_____ Zip:_____

Phone:_____E-Mail:_____

NSU undergraduate degree(s):_____Year of graduation:_____

NSU graduate degree(s):_____Year of graduation:_____

During which years did you attend NSU?_____

Which organizations were you involved in while a student at NSU?_____

_____

_____

_____

Place of employment _____

Job title:_____Work phone:_____

Spouse's name:_____

Is your spouse an NSU graduate? ____Yes ____ No

If yes, what degree(s) did he / she earn?

Spouse's undergraduate degree (s) _____ Year of graduation_____

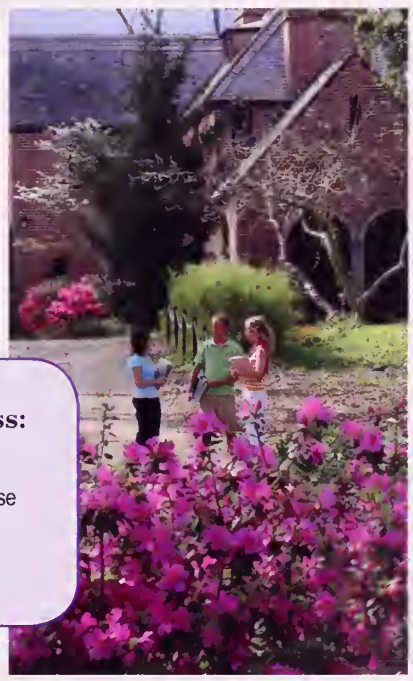
Spouse's graduate degree (s) _____ Year of graduation_____

Do you have children who are potential Northwestern students?
Please tell us their names, contact information, and what high school they attend.

_____

_____

Please return to: Alumni Center • Northwestern State University • Natchitoches, LA 71497



If you would like information from Admissions, Financial Aid or the NSU Athletic Association, you can contact them at the following address:

University Recruiting
South Hall
Natchitoches, LA 71497
(318) 357-4503 or 800-327-1903
www.nsula.edu/enrollmentservices/recruiting

Financial Aid
Room 109, Roy Hall
Natchitoches, LA 71497
(318) 357-5961
www.nsula.edu/financialaid

Athletic Director
Room 101C,Athletic Fieldhouse
Natchitoches, LA 71497
(318) 357-5251
www.nsudemons.com

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Pictured from left to right, 1st row: Laurie Anthony Drago, Sr., Robert Ray Bozeman, Helen Irene Sorrell, Carolyn Kearney LaCour, Sylvia George Murphy, Dorothy McGlothlin Denais, Karl W. Moore, Doyle Williams, Margaret Reynolds Stewart, and Virginia Waldron Dillingham. **2nd row:** Jerry G. Wise, Margaret Andries Whittington, Bobby Wingard, Mary Ann Magoun Arnold, Carolyn Barnette Warren, Glenda McRae Coburn, Venton R. Coburn, Constance Selma LaBarbera, Annie Catherine O'Neal Lynch, James T. Frame, Gloria L. Chance Leach, and Patsy Robertson Murphy. **3rd row:** Marie Annette Westbrook, Bobbie Sue Craft Berlin, Dolores Young Sawyer, Catherine Bryant Allen, Michael C. Moss, Katherine Sue Weir Rainer, Peggy Buckley Guess, Barbara Love Roberts, Iris Thompson Nassif Gueringer, and Louies Lane West. **4th row:** Kenneth E. Lantz, Shirley Ann Angele, Alice Bryan Spillers, Elayne Sutherlin Cornett, Dorothy Meharg Alford, Barbara Futch Scurlock, Carol Goldstein Allen Peters, Ted Roberts, Hugh Pearson Belvin, and Roy Underwood, Jr. **5th row:** Billy Thomas, Joe D. Cornett, Roma Anthony Parker, Evelyn Greene Dandridge, Charles A. Poche, Ellis J. Coutee, William V. Muse, Jacqueline Naylor Howard, Theodore L. Jones, Amelia Pickett Weldon, Mina Ann Stephenson Kirkham, Lydia Ross Stauffer Hartt, and James B. Slack

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Follow our tweets at **twitter.com/nsulaalumi** or **twitter.com/northwesternstu.**